



Recruit Review

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Accountability
Integrity
Respect
Teamwork
Professionalism

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Living The Dream



I don't know who brought the guy in the back on our trip to the La Crosse Juvenile Detention Center, but he sure fits in.

Recruit Meader shows his timid side to Recruit Geiszler and recruit Walters in an interviewing scenario.



The key to success is to keep a positive mind set and stay motivated and dedicated to what you wish to accomplish.



We were all astounded by the amount of narcotics Recruit Ellstad found in her search of an instructor's vehicle.

Juvenile Law



By: Jeff Brann

On Thursday, November 19, our class went off base to visit the Juvenile Detention center in La Cross. The center does not house many offenders, with a maximum capacity of just over 50 persons, and their services are not limited to just the La Cross community. Roughly eleven counties in the surrounding area utilize the Center for sending youths between the ages of 10-17 years.

There are two sectors for containment at the facility, one being a secure facility and the other a non-secure facility. The secure facility is for serious offenders that are either a

threat to themselves or others that they would be in contact with. Charges could range from minor disorderly conduct up to murder and rape. Their day is very strict and structured, giving them a chance to see how an organized life might be lived—with the exception of handcuffs and barred cells.

The non-secure facility is a more relaxed environment where there are no locked doors that keep the offenders at the facility, even though they are not free to leave. Most of the offenders in the non-secure facility are those that have committed minor misdemeanors. They sometimes leave with the supervisors to go to the store to pick up supplies for cooking in their kitchen, helping them learn some basic life skills while they are being detained.

Even though these juvenile offenders are out of the public school system while they are in the detention facility, they still receive education during their entire time at the center. The public school system provides teachers for the program that work with the offenders in a setting typical of an old one-room schoolhouse, where the

teacher may be working with kids of a fifth grade level at the same time he or she works with kids of a twelfth grade level.

We were lucky enough to have a complete tour of the facility to see how everything works from the time that the offender is brought to the facility to the time that they leave. They told us that typical time spent in containment was about six or seven days for secure detention and about four or five days for non-secure detention. However, they do have some sentences lasting nine months and longer.

Recidivism was a big problem because of the revolving door theory, where you see the same offenders coming to the detention center time and time again. Even though some of the kids had problems avoiding the law, we were told that some just like staying at the facility and commit minor offenses just so they can return. Hopefully we as law enforcement officers can reach some of the kids with this attitude when we get to our communities by using our community policing skills to help steer them down the right path.

Patrol Techniques



By: Ruth Ellestad

This week started off in the classroom with Sgt. Anibas instructing us on patrol techniques. We discussed the advantages and disadvantages of

different patrol types and which types are more or less effective in different situations. For example, the oldest form of patrolling is foot patrol. It works best in busy areas and is good for high visibility of officers as well as close citizen contact.

Other types of patrol that are less common in some areas include boat patrol and aircraft patrol. Boat patrol is used to deter smuggling, for search and rescues, and with traffic control. One disadvantage to this type is it is restricted to offshore use and is expensive to maintain. Aircraft patrol is another patrol type that is expensive to maintain. It is helpful in providing traffic control through overhead surveillance and assisting in search and

rescue.

The ten fatal errors of law enforcement was another topic we touched on. High on the list are lack of knowledge, taking a bad position, failure to recognize danger signs in people and places, and tombstone courage. We discussed why these are fatal errors and what can be done to prevent making them.

Overall it was a very informative class that came at a great time. Having just finished taking our vehicle contacts written exam and practical last Saturday, adding patrol techniques to our “toolbox” will help us incorporate all the different aspects of vehicle contacts and patrol techniques.

Interviewing Witnesses and Victims



By: Cherise McFarlane

Sergeant Anibas was front and center Tuesday to teach us more on dealing with interviews. We covered crisis interventions and how to effectively assist victims and witnesses in a crisis. The day progressed with lecture and scenarios. Towards the end of the day we learned proper death notification.

Sgt. Anibas had us role-play six different scenarios to test officer reaction to a crisis. Each of the role players had to act on emotions ranging from fear to shock and the two responding officers had to deal with the situation. The scenarios ranged from serious to humorous and we were able to practice our techniques on diffusing a crisis. After each scenario the group was debriefed on what was done properly and what could use improvement. We were able to learn from each other's actions.

The day ended on a somber note with the discussion of death notification procedures. It is important for us to know and understand the correct procedure since delivering notices is one of our most difficult tasks as police

officers. The recommended principles are to give the notification in person, in time, in pairs, in plain language, and with compassion. We now know how to deal with survivors and can access resources to help them in their time of need.



National Insurance Crime Bureau



By: Ryan Meader

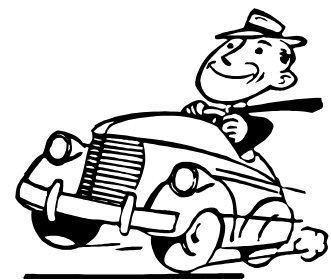
On Thursday morning the recruits were instructed by Mr. Robert Henderson of the National Insurance Crime Bureau on the identification of stolen vehicles. During our block of instruction Mr. Henderson identified the types of tools that are commonly used in auto theft and what type of damage should be looked for on a vehi-

cle. He explained that the tools can range from center punches and screw drivers to something as simple as a piece of porcelain broken off of a spark plug which will be used to break a car window with little noise.

Mr. Henderson explained the many ways to determine if a vehicle is stolen by looking for possible indicators and using the VIN. The best indicator that a vehicle is stolen is to read the VIN plate and match that information to the description of the car. While looking at the VIN plate an officer should look at the type of rivets used to secure the plate. If the vehicle is a GM, Chrysler, or Ford then the plate should be secured only with rosette rivets that have five petals. A trace of glue around the VIN plate is another good indicator that the car may be stolen.

There are many more ways to check if a vehicle is stolen but using

the VIN plate information is the best. An officer can try and match the VIN plate with other VIN stickers and stampings located around the vehicle as well as checking secondary locations and comparing the numbers to see if they match. After the recruits were finished with their block of instruction, they are confident that no auto thief is safe in our communities.



Dug Recognition and Narcotics Enforcement



By: Vance Henning

On Wednesday, September 18, we had the opportunity to meet two Wisconsin DNE (Division of Narcotics Enforcement) Special Agents. Special Agent Steve Lewis and Special Agent Ken Peters talked to us about drugs and narcotics. They explained to us the four main

drug categories: stimulants, hallucinogens, narcotics, and depressants. They provided us with many examples of each and the affects each one causes to the body. The Special Agents gave us many different precursors to look for with each drug. With their combined years of experience and expertise, Special Agent Lewis and Special Agent Peters shared a lot of good techniques to use in looking for drugs and drug users.

After given all the knowledge, we had the chance to try it out first hand. First, we had recruits hide different drug paraphernalia on them. Then, the others would take turns doing a search of the subjects. This gave us all the opportunity to experience the feel of the paraphernalia on people.

This will help us better identify objects that may be hidden on people. Also, we had the chance to search a car. Special Agent Lewis was nice enough to hide some drugs and other drug paraphernalia in his car. We then all took turns searching the car. This gave us a better understanding on where drugs can be hidden and where to look. Special Agent Lewis and Special Agent Peters did a great job in giving us more drug recognition techniques so that we can do our part in the "war on drugs."



Week in Review



By: Bill McCormick

We started out our fourteenth week bright and early Monday morning with our first attempt at our Use of Force Exams. These exams are comprehensive exams that cover the main topics of our training up to this point. We need to score a 100 per cent on these exams to pass. We have been close many times with people in the high ninety's every time they have taken them. Monday the sixteenth also had our Demonstrating Patrol Tech-

niques class, which went over different ways to patrol a neighborhood and different things to think about as you patrol your community. We ended Monday with a low light vehicle contact scenario. Each of us performed a traffic stoop and had to use our judgment on the correct way to conduct and arrest and a search of a vehicle and not infringe on the subjects constitutional rights. This was an eye opener for us all and we learned that we needed to get more in depth with our understanding of the elements of offences and the legal searching techniques.

On Tuesday the seventeenth we had a day of victim and witness interviewing. We had classroom training and were allowed to go into scenarios that tested our communication skills. On Wednesday the eighteenth we had a full day of Drug Identification and training on Meth Labs. This was both interesting and exciting. We gained knowledge on different types of

commonly used drugs and were allowed to go through scenarios to identify them. Our scenarios consisted of a vehicle search that represented a Badger Stop and a frisk of subjects to get a grasp on the plain feel doctrine.

On Thursday we went over auto theft and we learned some key techniques on how to identify stolen vehicles. We also learned how to read a VIN number and determine if the vehicle fit that number. The day ended with a trip to the La Crosse Juvenile Detention Center.

We are looking forward to the First Responder test outs and test this weekend as well as our day with Sgt. Darden for Community Oriented Policing. Next week we have Domestic Abuse training, Identification of Ordinance and Firearms Crimes, and Scenarios. We look forward to expanding our knowledge of what we have learned up to this point and passing our Use of Force Exams.